



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Schmeichel, et al.

Application No.: 09/930,680

Filed: August 14, 2001

Title: TONNEAU COVER END PLATE  
SECURING MECHANISM HAVING  
A RADIAL ENGAGING SURFACE

Attorney Docket No.: A20-009-01-US

Group Art Unit:  
3612

Examiner: Chenevert, Paul

*Handwritten:* #14/B, Jones, 8/20/03

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

AUG 15 2003

**GROUP 3600**

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

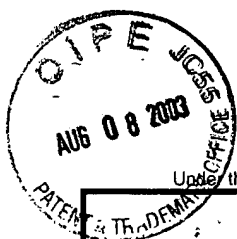
In response to the Office Action dated February 11, 2003 for the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

*Handwritten:* B1

Yet another alternate embodiment is shown in FIG. 18 where an embodiment like that shown in FIGS. 16 and 17 is shown, but which differs primarily only because the tension springs 774 of the embodiment shown in FIGS. 16 and 17 are replaced by compression springs 974 which push, rather than pull the locking member 960 or members, if there are more than one, which there preferably are, against the flange 1018 and/or the stop bolt 1019. In this case, the compression spring 974 slides over and is engaged by a first spring guide protrusion 977 extending away from the locking member 960 and a second spring guide protrusion 979 extending away from a spring stop 983. All the other features of this embodiment are preferably the same as the features of the alternate embodiment



08-11-03

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop RCE  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/930,680
Filing Date	August 14, 2001
First Named Inventor	Schmeichel, Charles M.
Art Unit	3612
Examiner Name	Chenevert, Paul A.
Attorney Docket Number	A20-009-01-US

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment.ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)☒ Request for three-month extensioniv. ☒ Other postcard, Version with Markings to Show  
Changes Made**RECEIVED****AUG 15 2003****GROUP 3600****2. Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-4300i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) | 08/13/2003 AWONDAF1 00000097 09930680ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801

375.00 OP

iii. ☒ Other any additional fees required in connection with this submissionb. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 840.00 enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.****SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Robert C. Freed	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,569
Signature	<i>Robert C. Freed</i>	Date	August 8, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

Express Mail Label No. EV 343281479 US hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail" Service under 37 CFR 1.10, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Robert C. Freed	Date	August 8, 2003
Signature	<i>Robert C. Freed</i>		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO